

MENTAL HEALTH OVERSIGHT ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

Attendance: Bruce Brensdal, Bill Hodges, Mindi Askelson, Carrie Lutkehus, Melinda Mason, Carolyn Pease-Lopez, Antonia Klein, Zoe Barnard, Glenda Oldenburg, Andy Hunthausen, Sydney Blair, Rebecca de Camara, Sydney Blair

Guests:

Eric Higginbotham, New Children's Mental Health Bureau Chief
Melissa Higgins, Medicaid Specialist Children's Mental Health Bureau
Dan Ladd, New Executive Director Board of Visitors
Rena Huffman, Medicaid Program Officer
Theresa Stahly, Blue Cross Blue Shield Medicaid Team
Rebecca Corbett, Medicaid Program Officer
Karl Rosston, Suicide Prevention AMDD
Bobbi Perkins - Bureau Chief, AMDD/Substance Abuse Disorder

- 9:11am Bill Hodges calls meeting to order (Chris Bates will not be able to attend today)
- Introductions
- No Quorum for Minute Approval or Block Grant approval (may need to do approval of the grant telephonically)
- Mindi – Expectations of the Council - SEE Handouts “Boards, Councils and Commissions” and “Guidance for Members Appointed to Advisory Councils...”
 - This Board is not actually a boards, actually an Advisory Council (to DHPPS),
 - We are one of 7 Advisory Councils within DHPPS,
 - Minutes from last meeting indicated that the Council wanting more interaction with other Advisory Councils that work with similar clients, if we see groups that we want information from we can narrow that down and invite them to attend/share with us,
 - MHOAC is mandated by federal and state law for agencies receiving Block Grant funds
 - The Council cannot advocate a position, but individuals on the council can advocate as an individual and make recommendations to AMDD,
 - SEE Handout “MHOAC Meeting 10/19/2016”, Every item on the agenda is an item on the handout, listed some things the Board may want to take action on (ways to take action),
 - Notes handout is where Mindi wants to see advice or recommendations,
 - Collect handout at end of meeting please put names on if feel comfortable, asking for Board indulgence to fill out, Bill suggests that Exec Council will review the notes on handouts and use them to form the next Council Meeting.

Department Updates

- Glenda Oldenburg
 - FINAL MHOAC UPDATE

- County Matching Grants 2.1M to award, more ask than money for the first time this year in FY16
 - Crisis Intervention and Jail Diversion,
 - MH Services in Jail, CIT Team Training,
 - CRT, expansion of Crisis Beds in Eastern MT,
 - Secure Crisis beds in Missoula
- Crisis Facilities 264 clients served in ED/Secure Crisis Beds
 - 96 to MSH,
 - 11 to local hospital
 - 66 to Voluntary Crisis Beds,
 - Rest to Community Services,
 - Short Term In Patient beds are contracting with Crisis Facilities, to provide the option of voluntary stay in community to avoid involuntary commitment to MSH
- Zoe Barnard
 - Currently using federal Block Grant dollars to fund essential community services,
 - MHSP funds now only being used for narrow window of individuals that have no other funding source (gap with Medicaid eligibility),
 - There will now be some money to do some activities prevention and an ideal Continuum of Care – but Zoe is interested in here what other ideas are out there. Some ideas suggested were Peer Services, Online CBT, support, supported web based interaction between primary care doctors and psychiatrists,
 - First Episode Psychosis - NIMH research shows that if you get to people at first episode can ameliorate symptoms over a lifetime (RFP attached).
 - SAMHSA mandated that 10% of Block Grant dollars be put toward this.
 - We are working with NAMI to implement this program and the RFP is currently open.
 - The grant is 263K and must include the use of NAVIGATE program developed by NIMH and staff the program with a Program Director, Prescriber, Individual Resiliency Trainer, Supported EM Specialist, and a Case Manager. Grant award will be announced by Nov 15.
 - Bill discussed how the Council could share this information with other stakeholders and how to become more involved.
- Rebecca de Camara
 - Introduced the new Children's Mental Health Bureau Chief Eric Higginbotham.
 - Native American Youth Suicide Prevention Grant is legislation funded by Gov. Bullock to address disproportionate number of Native American youth who attempt suicide, first coalition meeting held Nov 2 and 3 in Helena, 26 representatives of all tribes and urban Indian Centers, as well as youth were represented.
 - Youth Crisis Diversion Contracts, HB 47 released an RFP for 1.2M to fund community wide Chemical Dependency Projects in Missoula, Billings, Helena. The RFP allows different communities to design best program for their community, variety of different projects. Some nationally fund projects that are successful include an interactive crisis response website as well as designation of community based crisis beds.

- MT Co-Occurring Capacity Building Grant 2.8M SAMHSA Grant, increase availability of clinical providers who can address MH and SUDS, resulting in misdiagnosis and mistreatment in only treating one component, grant activities = workforce training, mapping expenditures, integration of co-occurring model in Billings, Helena, Missoula has led to a transitional grant with youth and treating across youth to adult systems, this is the Behavioral Health Home Pilot.
- Closure of MDC – Legislated to take place by July of 2017, 29 successful community placements, more successful than Rebecca anticipated. Clients placed with new group home provider, Benchmark is going well. There are 25 remaining clients to place, 12 of which are in the Secure Assessment unit and are extremely hard to place. Rebecca is hoping that the Legislature will allow MDC to stay open until these clients are placed. To prepare communities for these clients, awareness training has been provided to law enforcement and first responder disability awareness training.
 - Andy Hunthausen asked who does the Council make a recommendation to regarding MDC, specifically what happens if the remaining clients can't be placed,
 - Carolyn stated that she had heard that things have gone smoothly regarding the goals of SB411. However, some legislators are suggestion to extend the date of the closure as the remaining clients are difficult to place. There are a number of programs that would help with these placements but the state does not have those specific programs in place. Additionally we need more time to get ancillary services in place, keep the transitions going smoothly.
- The next transition Committee meeting is in Dec. At the last meeting the need for a crisis response program in Eastern and Western MT was discussed.
- Sydney Blair discussed the Health Home or Crisis Diversion Grant. She was disappointed with Interim Committee and how the information was presented. In 3 months of operation Great Falls has deterred 9 clients from higher level of care would have resulted in larger savings than total cost of grant. A crisis transition house was opened in Sydney, and provides placement, full assessment, and rapid turnaround to see a provider, respite for family and referral to other services. Health Home Project working with 3 agencies to figure out how to do integrated care, same consultant across state, focus is young adult 16 to 25.
- Carolyn Pease-Lopez – She acknowledges that Legislator is big on not funding mandates such as the closing of MCD. There are some legislators who are unofficially voicing concern that timeline was very ambitious, specifically for clients who have not yet been transitions. They now realize that communities are not prepared to take on these clients and they are planning on readdress positively in next session. She also explained how bills are put forth to the Legislature/
 - Zoe offered she was at a medical meeting as MSH yesterday where they discussed the number of Developmentally Disabled folks ending up at MSH and there is concern that mixing the two populations is becoming a safety issue.
 - Dan Ladd shared that some of the remaining MDC people would be more appropriate placement at Deer Lodge but Commissioners are worried that mixing populations will cause problems and interrupt MH client treatment.

- The Mental Health Directors are advocating for more resources to be allowed to this issue.
 - Rebecca was frustrated by lack of testimony from community regarding reality of placing clients in community. They are now coming forward to complain, but it is too late. Sydney added that this bill had good intention, but maybe the Legislature should back up and look at again. Carolyn shared that she had could not remember so much bullying regarding a bill. Rebecca added that there was a certain number of clients are beginning to decompensation because of the uncertainty of placements.
- SAA Updates: No one from the SAAs were present however, Antonia reported that All SAAs needed representative. Mindi also shared that she was working on a plan with Carrie to improve the communications flow between the LACs, SAAs and MHOAC.
 - Mindi shared an update on Supported Employment Statistics, which is attached.
 - Board of Visitors – Dan Ladd introduced himself as the new Executive Director of the Board of Visitors. He explained his role and the fact that the Board is an independent entity that serves as oversight MDC and MSH. The Board reports directly to the governor’s office. Dan also expressed hope that the Board, Council, LACs and SAAs move towards working together, especially at the community level. The Board is also recruiting members from Eastern Montana.
 - The question was asked how we can address issues and concerns that pop up while the Legislature is in progress. We want to make sure that we respond with a coordinated voice. Carolyn invited individuals to contact her with new information. Additionally, Mindi and Carrie will have access to daily legislative updates that they can share.
 - Karl Rosston – Suicide Mortality Review Team Update (presentation attached)
 - Renae Huffman, Theresa Stahly, Rebecca Corbett – Medicaid Expansion (presentation attached)
 - Bobbi Perkins – Attended Block Grant Conference in August. MT will be having a Monitoring Visit this spring and it will focus on primary prevention.
 - Substance Abuse Block Grant also needs to form an Advisory Council like MHOAC. There was a discussion about they should form their own Council or combine with MHOAC or the Children’s System of Care Committee. The issue was tabled for a later date.
 - 20% of Block Grants for primary prevention programs.
 - Contractors have not been able to spend all of contracts now that Medicaid is covering more treatment. The Bureau has a list of priorities that they will use for the excess funds.
 - Behavioral Health Care Act Bill – SUDS Providers are currently required to be state approved for Block Grant contracts and to bill standard Medicaid. However current legislation requires that provider’s meet a non-duplication and local need provision to be approved. Department is working to remove that language to increase the number of providers within the system.
 - MT Healthcare Foundation is contracting with Manat to do an Environmental Assessment of SUDS system, Medicaid benefits, admission standards, payment levels, and methodology.
 - Sydney predicted that some providers will pull out of providing services due to not wanting to compete for Block Grant dollars which will impact rural areas. She also

foresees providers' population splitting into two entities, those that work with children and those who work with adults. How do we get people dually licensed? That question needs to be taken to the Department of Labor and Industry as well as the Social Work Board.

- The group then discussed the pros and cons of integrated care.

Plan to increase active participation of MHOAC (attached) – MHOAC needs to find a way to motivate Council members.

- Decision on adopting this plan needs to be tabled until a quorum is present. Mindi will attempt to schedule a WebEx meeting.
- A major rewrite on the Block Grant will take place in 2017. Previously 1/3 of funding was for Mental Health Services Plan which is no longer needed due to Medicaid Expansion. Ideas for using those dollars include: PATH, Supported Employment, PAX Good Behavior Game, Housing vouchers and Native American Suicide Prevention. An email will be sent out in November with recommendations.

Next meeting dates: 2/15/17 (Helena), 05/16/17 (Fairmont – will tour Forensic MH Facility), 10/04/17 (Helena - Board Training), 10/05/17 (Helena).

Meeting was adjourned.